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contraband of war, and that neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under the enemy's flag? These rules, though, are not to be avoided by making everything contraband of war.

They were contemptuously repudiated in the present war, together with many others framed in the conferences of peace. Sir Edward Carson told in a speech delivered but a few weeks ago on the "Duty of Neutrals," that conventions adopted in times of peace could only be upheld by neutrals, and he added that international law, the product of all the peace instincts of all nations with a view to preventing interruption to civilization, even in time of hostilities, had been entirely abolished, or at any rate greatly encroached upon, by the ineptitude and powerlessness shown by neutrals.

If it is so, and I am afraid it is; if war went back to

its most brutal ways, to its most inhuman aspects—non-combatants immolated by airships' bombs and submarine torpedoes, populations threatened to be starved to death, etc.—only, as the ex-attorney general of Great Britain says, by the impotence of the neutrals themselves, their responsibility is great. In fact, they have in their hands—specially a powerful prestigious neutral like the United States—the faculty of stopping any war. Pan-American co-operation will not fail to back the leader of such a union, if this one chooses to exercise its authority in the sense of conciliation. Neutrals, indeed, which are supposed to be free from passion for the struggle, can and must begin by enforcing the respect for the rules of international jurisprudence through some kind of international injunction. Peace is to be organized as war was organized.

THE PAN AMERICAN UNION AND THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

AT THE regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, held in Washington on December 1, 1915, His Excellency, Eduardo Suárez Nujica, Chilean Ambassador, made the following statement:

"As my colleagues are undoubtedly aware, in October, 1912, the foundations were laid in Washington for an organization of a most interesting character. Under the auspices of the prominent internationalists of the whole world, under the honorary presidency and the wise counsel of the ex-Secretary of State and distinguished North American statesman, Mr. Elihu Root, and through the unremitting and intelligent effort of two men of action and scholars, well known to the international world, Messrs. James Brown Scott and Alejandro Alvarez, there was born into the realm of scientific life the American Institute of International Law, the object of which is, briefly stated, to combine and utilize through a central organization in Washington and the co-operation of affiliated or corresponding associations in all the other American nations, the intellectual efforts of jurists and thinkers of the continent, for the development of international law, the generalization of its principles, and the adoption of a common standard to ensure the enforcement of law and justice among the countries of the New World.

"The corresponding or affiliated associations have already been organized in eighteen out of the twenty-one American Republics, and steps are being taken to constitute the other three.

"International law is not the patrimony of a single nation. It is the law of all nations, and must therefore be formed and assented to by all; and thus the co-operation of nations is essential to its enactment or amendment. Hence the enormous importance of an organization having a brain and a voice in every one of the nations of America, whose action must be the fruit of continental thought.

"Such an organization embodies, I believe, one of the most powerful auxiliaries for progress and civilization in the Americas, and for the permanent maintenance of peace from one end to the other of their frontiers. Such an organization deserves, without doubt, the good will of the peoples and governments of the continent, which we represent here.

"During the month commencing today the Second Pan American Scientific Congress is to meet in Washington, and one of the most important events that are to take place during its sessions is the official, solemn inauguration, under the auspices of the Congress, of the American Institute of International Law. I believe this is a fitting occasion on

which to offer a vote of commendation and encouragement for this work of common interest to our countries—a vote which I hope will be accepted by all—and therefore I have the honor to submit for the approval of the board the following resolution:

"The Governing Board of the Pan American Union, considering that the official inauguration of the American Institute of International Law, founded in Washington October 12, 1912, is soon to take place under the auspices of the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress; and

"Considering that said Institute, consisting of representatives of every one of the American Republics, recommended by the International Law Associations of their respective countries, will result in strengthening, through the active co-operation of jurists and thinkers of the whole continent, the bonds of friendship and union now existing between these Republics, and will contribute to the development of a common sentiment of international justice among them,

"Resolves, To tender to the founders and members of the American Institute of International Law a vote of commendation and encouragement for the foundation of said organization, which represents a step of the highest importance in the moral advancement of the continent and in the strengthening of the sentiments of friendship and harmony among the Republics."

When the motion was put to vote by the Hon. Robert Lansing, Secretary of State, chairman of the Governing Board of the Pan American Union, he remarked that he knew of the Institute, having been consulted at its organization, and favored it very strongly, still more so since the war in Europe, because he felt that we are more or less the guardians of international law on this side of the water and that the Institute can be a great power for preserving law.

The resolution, which was simultaneously seconded by several members of the Board, was unanimously and enthusiastically approved, and the Secretary of the Board was ordered to have both the statement of His Excellency the Chilean Ambassador and the resolution spread upon the minutes of the meeting, and, furthermore, transmitted to the Honorary President and the President of the American Institute of International Law, with an expression of felicitation and good will from the Governing Board of the Pan American Union.